In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 1-12 without prejudice and add claims 13-24.

13. (ADDED) A prodrug compound that is an inhibitor of the enzymatic activity of dipeptidyl peptidase IV (DP IV), which compound has the general formula A-B-C, wherein
A is an amino acid,
B is a chemical bond between A and C or is an amino acid, and
C is a stable inhibitor of DP IV, selected from the group consisting of isoleucyl thiazolidine, isoleucyl pyrrolidine, L-allo-isoleucyl thiazolidine, L-allo-isoleucyl pyrrolidine, valyl thiazolidine and valyl pyrrolidine.

14. (ADDED) The prodrug compound according to claim 13 wherein said stable inhibitor is present in a salt form.

15. (ADDED) The prodrug compound according to claim 13 having the general formula A-B-C, wherein said compound is selected from the group consisting of glycyl-prolyl-isoleucyl thiazolidine (Gly-Pro-Ile-Thia), glycyl-isoleucyl thiazolidine (H-Gly-Ile-Thia), alanyl-isoleucyl thiazolidine (Ala-Ile-Thia), prolyl-isoleucyl thiazolidine (Pro-Ile-Thia), pyroglutamyl-isoleucyl thiazolidine (pGlu-Ile-Thia), glycyl-prolyl-isoleucyl pyrrolidine (Gly-Pro-Ile-Pyr), glycyl-isoleucyl pyrrolidine (H-Gly-Ile-Pyr), alanyl- isoleucyl pyrrolidine (Ala-Ile-Pyr), prolyl-isoleucyl pyrrolidine (Pro-Ile-Pyr), and pyroglutamyl-isoleucyl pyrrolidine (pGlu-Ile-Pyr).

16. (ADDED) The prodrug compound according to claim 15 wherein said compound is present in pharmaceutical acceptable salts thereof.

17. (ADDED) The prodrug compound according to claim 13 having the general formula A-B-C wherein said compound is selected from the group consisting of glycyl-prolyl-valyl thiazolidine (Gly-Pro-Val-Thia), glycyl-valyl thiazolidine (H-Gly-Val-Thia), alanyl-valyl thiazolidine (Ala-Val-Thia), prolyl-valyl thiazolidine (Pro-Val-Thia), pyroglutamyl-valyl thiazolidine (pGlu-Val-Thia), glycyl-prolyl-valyl pyrrolidine (Gly-Pro-Val-Pyr), glycyl-valyl pyrrolidine (H-Gly-Val-

Pyr), alanyl- valyl pyrrolidine (Ala-Val-Pyr), prolyl- valyl pyrrolidine (Pro-Val-Pyr), and pyroglutamyl-valyl pyrrolidine (pGlu-Val-Pyr), and pharmaceutical acceptable salts thereof.

18. (ADDED) The prodrug compound according to claim 16 wherein said compound is present in pharmaceutical acceptable salts thereof.

19. (ADDED) A pharmaceutical composition for oral administration containing the prodrug compound of claim 13 in combination with one or more pharmaceutical carriers or excipients.

20. (ADDED) A pharmaceutical composition for oral administration containing at least one prodrug compound of claim 15 in combination with one or more pharmaceutical carriers or excipients.

21. (ADDED) A pharmaceutical composition for oral administration containing at least one prodrug compound of claim 17 in combination with one or more pharmaceutical carriers or excipients.

22. (ADDED) A method of treating impaired glucose tolerance, glucosuria, hyperlipidaemia, metabolic acidoses, diabetes mellitus, diabetic neuropathy, obesity and nephropathy and sequelae of diabetes mellitus in mammals, which method comprises administering a therapeutically effective amount of the compound of claim 13.

23. (ADDED) A method of treating impaired glucose tolerance, glucosuria, hyperlipidaemia, metabolic acidoses, diabetes mellitus, diabetic neuropathy, obesity and nephropathy and sequelae of diabetes mellitus in mammals, which method comprises administering a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of claim 15.

24. (ADDED) A method of treating impaired glucose tolerance, glucosuria, hyperlipidaemia, metabolic acidoses, diabetes mellitus, diabetic neuropathy, obesity and nephropathy and sequelae of diabetes mellitus in mammals, which method comprises administering a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of claim 17.